

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/578,931

Applicant(s)

HOCLET, MICHEL

Examiner

Vincent Q. Nguyen

Art Unit

2858

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 10/12/2007 and interview 1/07/2008.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.

3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

(b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 1/7/2008.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

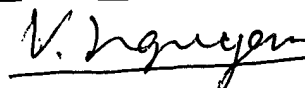
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 1/7/08.

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☒ Other Drawing 10/12/2007.



VINCENT Q. NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

## DETAILED ACTION

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Eugene Lieberstein on January 07/2008.

2. The Application has been amended as follows:

a)

#### **Abstract**

A device for taking ultra-high frequency hydrometric measurements ~~which includes means for~~ by generating sine wave trains of incident wave(s) at frequencies assuming several values in arithmetic progression between a few MHz and a few GHz, and has at least one ultra-high frequency cable. The cable includes at least two measuring stations (4) spaced along the cable a predetermined distance apart, ~~with~~ each measuring station (4) having a measuring cell (14) and a separator device capable of only sampling a portion of the incident wave(s) with sufficient energy for each measuring cell to send back an echo measurable by electronic read-out means device so that the sampling of the incident wave(s) by each measuring station occurs essentially simultaneously. Each measuring cell (14) consists of a an ultra-high frequency line portion with its distal end terminated by a short circuit and with the line portion having a circumferential external

wall which is either porous or provided with ports. ~~The dielectric of the line portion consists essentially of a sample of homogeneous dielectric material for which permittivity is a monotonous function of the hydrometry in the relevant measurement domain~~

b) The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant:

In figure 5, box # 41, label: -- Multiplexing --

box # 46, label: -- Computer System --

In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-18 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach or suggest a device for ultra-high frequency hydrometric measurements having at least one ultra-high frequency cable including at least two measuring stations within said cable spaced along the cable a predetermined distance apart from each other with each measuring station having a measuring cell and a separator device capable of only sampling a portion of the incident wave(s) with sufficient energy for each measuring cell to send back an echo measurable by electronic read-out means so that the sampling of the incident wave(s) by each measuring station occurs essentially simultaneously, and electronic read-out means for measuring the echo sent back from each measuring cell and determining, from signals having traveled through the ultra-high frequency cable, values of the real and imaginary parts of the

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permittivity, in order to determine the measurement of humidity and temperature by correlation with tables of values experimentally, as recited in the independent claim 1 and in combination of the claims.

***Contact Information***

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vincent Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2234. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



January 7, 2008

Vincent Q. Nguyen  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2858



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Approved  
*V. Nguyen*  
01/07/08

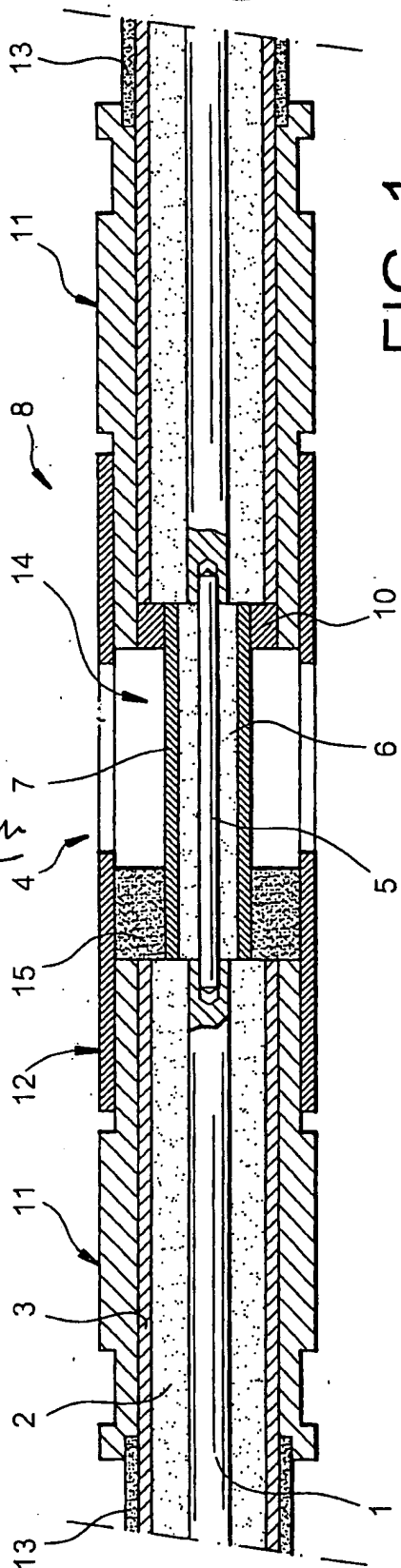


FIG. 1

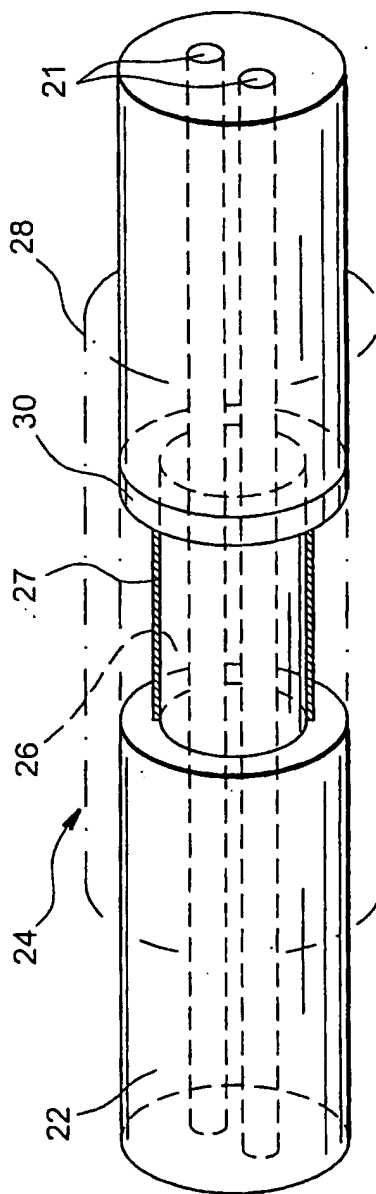


FIG. 2



FIG. 5

Approved  
*V. Nguyen*  
 01/07/08

